



HR0039

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, February 7, 2013, is the 12th annual commemoration and observance of National African-American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day; and

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WHEREAS, This observance is a nationwide effort to mobilize African-American communities to get educated, get tested, get involved, and get treated around HIV/AIDS, as it continues to devastate African-American communities; and

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WHEREAS, National African-American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is directed, planned, and strategically implemented by HIV/AIDS organizations to mobilize community-based organizations and stakeholders involved in HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment; and

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WHEREAS, Nearly 46,000 residents of Illinois are living with HIV and 55% of people diagnosed with HIV are African-American; and

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WHEREAS, African-American gay men under the age of 30 in Chicago have an infection rate 3 times greater than their white counterparts; and

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WHEREAS, Over two-thirds of women diagnosed with HIV in the

1 United States are African-American; and

2 WHEREAS, Among African-Americans ages 25-44, HIV was the
3 4th leading cause of death for men and third leading cause of
4 death for women, higher than any other racial group; and

5 WHEREAS, Numerous organizations, faith-based institutions,
6 public health entities, and impacted citizens are hosting
7 community events to recognize this day and its importance to
8 African-Americans and all concerned citizens; and

9 WHEREAS, It is fitting that we join with these local,
10 national, and international groups to express our strong
11 support for National African-American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
12 and the initiatives to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS in
13 African-American communities and provide access to and
14 utilization of HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and support
15 services to those affected by HIV/AIDS; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
17 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we designate February 7, 2013, as National African-American
19 HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in State of Illinois and encourage the
20 citizens of this State to strongly support this day and
21 participate in events planned to commemorate the occasion.